

WONDERS OF SCIENCE



“... bringing life to science”

Wonders of Science is a ministry of Whittier Christian Schools

40 Years and a Billion Volts Later!

Dean and Terry's 40th Anniversary with Wonders of Science

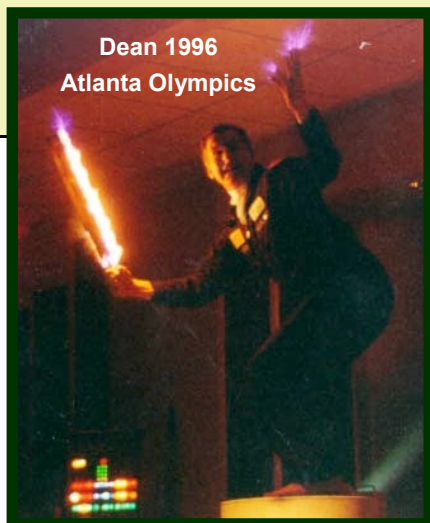
“This hardly seems impossible! My, my, that's greatly underwhelming!” Those were two of my predecessor's favorite sayings as we'd come upon some curious event or circuit problem we had to solve before the next presentation.

Dr. George Speake, who recently passed

into the presence of his Savior, was a former Navy Commander and fighter pilot. He had seen the science programs held at one of his military assignments and the Lord impressed a desire upon his heart to be available after the war to bring those programs to other military personnel. He took over the program after Dr. Moon decided to take on the film ministry.

Dr. Irwin Moon had originally been awarded a full scholarship to Yale to become a nuclear physicist, but the Lord called him to the pastorate. His love for science then focused on reaching those outside the church's influence. Designing equipment to be used to illustrate Biblical truths, he was the first to do programs and his Sunday evening presentations were so popular in the early 1930's that a group of local businessmen urged him to incorporate them in 1938 into a program called “Sermons From Science.” His first major outreach was at the 1939 World's Fair at Treasure Island.

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BIOS Academy

Southeast of Phoenix is the community of Gilbert, AZ. A longtime friend of Wonders of Science happened to take a brochure about the WOS programs to the BIOS Academy suggesting they might wish to schedule an assembly for their students. I was contacted and

the school had a date open that immediately followed the programs we had the week before in Tonto Basin so it worked out perfectly.

This Academy is rather unique in its educational philosophy in that all the students from grades 7 through 12 are located in a large single room. The teachers and facilitators are made up of educators and successful members of industry and research. Each is available for any questions the students may have, as they guide them during their individual studies while attending a normal school day of classes. It is the most peaceful educational environment I've ever experienced, and each student rises to the high level expected.

The school emphasizes the sciences, so it is no wonder that student attention was riveted to the Wonders of Science assembly for the entire three hour presentation! Rarely have I experienced more respect and interest from students and faculty during such a long presentation.

After the presentation, probing student questions revealed a depth of knowledge and understanding of their subjects. But more importantly they showed great interest in how to apply their studies to society in a God honoring way through their future careers. We trust that God will use what was presented to bear fruit in the lives of these young people for His glory.



Dean answers many inquiries about the how and why of the demonstrations.

Modern one-room school house (left)

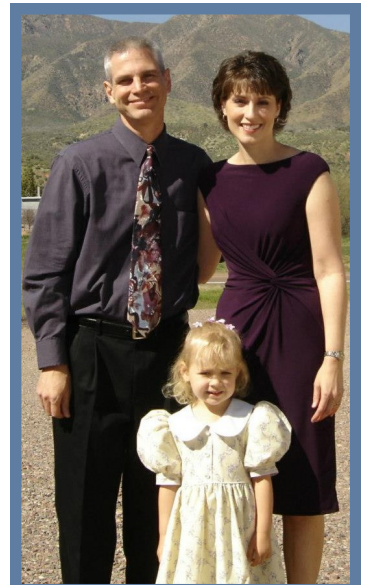
Tonto Basin Bible Church, Tonto Basin, AZ

A missionary church up in the mountains of Arizona gave us an opportunity to minister to a very special crowd. Tonto Basin Bible Church is pastored by Village Missionaries, Robert and Stephanie Melotti, who just happen to be our son-in-law and eldest daughter. If that isn't special enough, they are the parents of our only granddaughter, Annelise.

One cute moment in the middle of one of the programs came when three year old Annelise walked right up on stage to return a Ping Pong ball I had launched into the crowd to illustrate how a pitcher throws a curve ball. She unabashedly climbed the steps, approached me with her hand out holding the ball and carefully placed it into my hand. Then she turned around and marched right back to her seat. I was so surprised since that had never happened before. I can't remember if the crowd clapped or laughed. But it was so precious. Do we sound like grandparents?

The church body was pleased to see so many new faces in the crowd from the community.

Pray with us that the Word sown in their hearts will bear fruit.



Pastor Robert, Stephanie and Annelise Melotti (above).

The young people enjoy participating with the experiments during the program (left).



Whittier Christian Schools 7th Grade Science Camp



Each year students look forward to Science Camp held in the local mountains. For those who have never seen snow it is a special treat. Actually it snowed so much the last day I thought we might be stranded, but

putting on the chains (in California?) got us all down from the mountains.



There are ten different science activities held during the days with the evenings dedicated to the Wonders of Science programs. The student's response to the Lord's prompting this year was encouraging to see. There were friendships restored, renewed commitments to parents and siblings, and faith strengthening convictions from God's word as well as many new believers.



Top left - Chaos Tower Building;
 Top right - Laser Chess;
 Bottom left - Air Rifle practice;
 Bottom right - Among many decisions made, there were those who made a first-time decision for Christ!

COMMENT CORNER...

"I want to apologize for reacting before I had the facts. I emailed our principal expressing concern about your program for such young students. We can hardly keep their attention for 15 minutes and we were expected to sit through a one hour assembly! I must say that hour seemed like ten minutes to us!" -- Kindergarten Teacher --

"Needless to say, we were a bit apprehensive. To consider a one hour science presentation for K through 2nd grade, then another for 3rd through 5th was a leap into the unknown for us. But, what an incredible experience! Please, please come back whenever you can." -- Public School Principal --

"I wish my science teacher would have had classes like these programs. I learned as much tonight as I might have over weeks in school! Are you available for tutoring?" -- Parent --

"We were so blessed to see so many new faces visit our church during your programs. We have been praying for some of these people for six months!" -- Pastor --

"I was 'burned' by some so-called Christians as a youth and never went to church again! My brother invited me here to see your show and you didn't shove anything down my throat! It wasn't bad, so maybe I'll come visit again!" -- Skeptical Visitor --

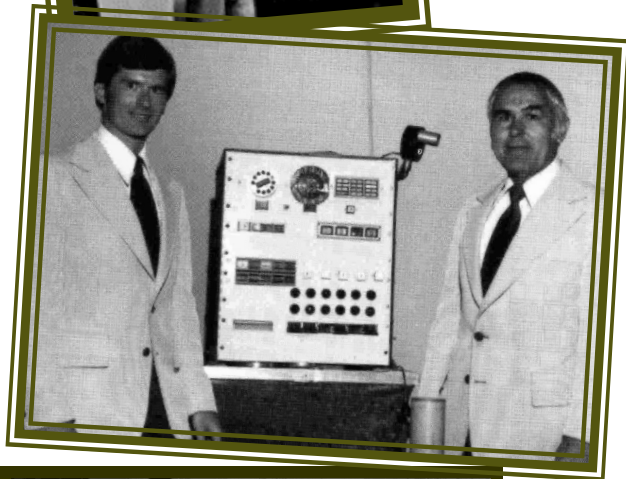
"We look forward to events of this nature...The emphasis that science and faith are compatible lends stability and certainty to a world in turmoil. Your contribution in strengthening the spiritual and moral fiber of our community is appreciated." -- Major General, US Army --

"I am vitally interested in the total development of all our base personnel and their families, which certainly includes the spiritual dimension. You ministered in this area in a most unique and effective manner illustrating the inter-relatedness of natural law and spiritual truth." -- Major General, US Air Force --

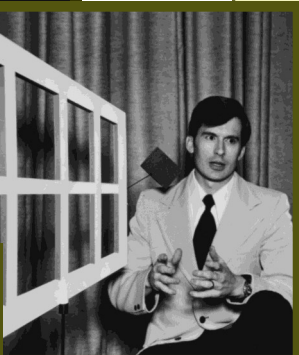


Dr. Moon with the induction coil. (Left)

Dean joins Sermons from Science with Dr. George Speake in 1973. (Below).



Dean and Terry have made a great team, working for the Lord with Wonders of Science.



40 Years (continued from Page 1)

Dr. Moon's later military tours during WWII brought him into contact with Commander Speake who assumed the role of science demonstrator after the war while Dr. Moon developed the Moody Institute of Science film ministry. The idea for the film ministry had come about after he had seen the effectiveness of the military's use of films to train new recruits.

Dr. Speake continued to tour for Sermons from Science for the next 30 years, bringing the programs to military and civilian audiences, including World's Fairs and Olympic Games.

40 years ago, at a "command performance" for Moody Bible Institute during their annual Founder's Week event, Dr. Speake was introduced to Terry and me as possible replacements for him. Dr. Speake was "greatly underwhelmed" with the geeky, nerdy student before him. I had just come out of the faculty research environment at a university to attend a Bible School. I was seeking out what God meant for me to do after I had committed my life to Him at a Billy Graham Crusade.

In Fall of 1973, I began presenting local programs at Moody and military bases. My first major program was in the Spring of 1974 at the Spokane World's Fair.

We will be forever grateful to Dr. George Sweeting, then President of Moody Bible Institute and a chalk art evangelist in his own right, for his insight and faith in our potential to be used of the Lord in this unique way. That was 40 years ago!

Since then we've experienced some amazing things over the past four decades:

- Over one billion volts have passed through me "riding the lightning!"
- Presenting the programs live to over 8 million and via international TV to over three quarters billion!
- A dozen vehicles and three trailers worn out by enough miles to equal two round trips to the Moon!
- My absence from home for six to nine months of the year while Terry raised three children, all of whom love and follow the Lord with their spouses
- The incredible privilege of seeing the Lord bring over 40,000 new believers into His family
- The humbling honor of representing many faithful friends partnering with us as we share the gospel on

BE INVOLVED!

- Pray that God will bring believers who will partner with us as we enter our fifth decade of ministry.
- Pray for the many school assemblies, community and military outreach opportunities requested this year.

Desert Retreat

Imagine visiting the local desert with a number of deputy sheriffs, SWAT team officers, police officers and about 250 other friends and their sons every January! The annual "Iron Man" outreach sponsored by a local church is anticipated by many families all year long as a wonderful "grandfather/father/friend/son" outing. Training in all sorts of shooting sports, a fantastic steak barbecue, flights of remote controlled "quad-copters," Civil War cannon exhibitions and just plain fun interaction "doing the guy thing" while making contact with new faces regarding their relationship to Christ.

This has been a tremendous outreach to those who would not be comfortable in a church setting, but will attend an outdoor sporting event where family values are demonstrated in a neutral, relaxed setting. I've been asked several times to be the guest speaker and what an exciting opportunity to meet so many men, young and old, where one can share the gospel in a non-threatening environment. The general and individual campfires provide the setting for many profitable interactions, building relationships for ongoing faith sharing opportunities.

There was a demo of the loading and firing of a Civil War Cannon.

Over 250 attendees came out for the retreat.



A former colleague now teaching at a public school called me to see if I'd be willing to present two one hour daytime assemblies for students plus an evening program for their parents. He called it "Meet A Scientist Night" and I was excited to be a part of the first program of this type at his school.

Public School Assemblies



the 2nd grade! The teachers wondered how an "old scientist could keep the younger students engaged when we teachers are challenged trying to do it for 15 minutes!"

The Lord was so gracious in keeping the children totally involved the entire time as they sat on the floor for an hour watching and participating in the Wonders of Science presentation. The emails subsequently received by the principal and the organizing teacher were so complimentary. Many asked if the "Science Night" could be scheduled again for next year.

When the upper grades were meeting for lunch right before their afternoon assembly, I overheard excited comments of anticipation as they watched me re-setting the gear for their program. The older students expressed even more excitement than the first assembly which then prompted a greater turnout for the evening program and interaction with parents.

The reception was incredible! But, the primary grade teachers were really apprehensive and sent a number of emails to the organizing teacher as well as their principal. The first assembly was to be an hour for K through

UPCOMING SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS!

Kirtland AFB, NM	April 24-26
Hoffmantown, NM	April 28
Cannon AFB, NM	April 28-29
Bullhead City, AZ	May 19-21
Princeton, MN	June 25-27
Glenwood, MN	July 14-17
Alexandria, MN	July 19 (CEO Luncheon)
Enderlin, ND	July/Aug. (TBD)
Glendive, MT	Aug. (TBD)
Bozeman, MT	Sept. 17
Malmstrom AFB, MT	Sept. (TBD)
Vaughn Public School, MT	Sept. 25-26
Vaughn, MT	Sept. 26-29
Spokane, WA	Oct. (TBD)
Ft. Collins, CO	Oct. (TBD)

WCS WONDERS OF SCIENCE

Dr. Dean Ortner
6548 Newlin Avenue
Whittier, CA 90601

Phone: 562-631-6731
562-699-5426

Email: DeanOrtner@aol.com
WCSWonders@aol.com

Check Out Our Website at:
www.WondersOfScience.org

Address Correction Requested



ECFA Member
Organization



ACSI Accredited



WASC Accredited

HOMWORK CLUB

God provided an exciting new opportunity for Wonders of Science late last fall. Our home church offered to help neighborhood public school students who faced challenges with their homework. The students and their parents

from the community were invited to our Christian school campus where generous volunteers from church took turns each week to guide the students through their coursework.



Dean standing next to our pastor, Dr. John Ploog and his wife Marilyn, stand with some of the students at the session. Our administrative pastor, Dennis Mohler is standing on the right.



Everyone wants to volunteer at a Wonders of Science presentation.

The incentive to finish on time was the opportunity to watch a different science program after each of their homework sessions. Wonders of Science presented dozens of programs using chemistry, physics, electronic and math experiments to connect what they were learning to the Person behind the creation. It seemed that the parents who attended had just as much fun learning as did the students.